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Letter dated 21 September 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter concerning the reprieve granted to four notorious Cuban-born international terrorists, perpetrators of countless acts of terrorism against the people of Cuba, by the former President of the Republic of Panama, Mrs. Mireya Moscoso, who completed her term on 1 September 2004.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Orlando **Requeijo Gual**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter of 21 September 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you of the serious events that took place last 25 August 2004 in relation to the reprieve granted by Mrs. Mireya Moscoso, former President of the Republic of Panama, who completed her term last 1 September, in favour of four notorious Cuban-born international terrorists.

The reprieve was decreed by Mrs. Moscoso for notorious terrorists Luis Faustino Clemente Posada Carriles, Gaspar Eugenio Jiménez Escobedo, Guillermo Novo Sampoll and Pedro Remón Rodríguez, who had been trained by the Central Intelligence Agency and directly or indirectly used by United States Administrations to execute terrorist actions against Cuba for over 40 years, including the sabotage committed by Luis Faustino Clemente Posada Carriles against a Cuban civilian flight, in which 73 persons died.

The extensive criminal record of such terrorists against the people of Cuba has been largely documented at the United Nations, as recorded in various official documents of the Organization (see enclosure I).

The aforementioned terrorists had been detained in November 2000 in Panama and subjected to prosecution in that country for planning an attack on the life of President Fidel Castro. This attack would have been committed through the use of dozens of kilograms of high-power explosives at a rally of the Cuban delegation to the Tenth Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government in the Auditorium of Panama University with Panamanian students, workers and indigenous people.

The reprieve was given despite reiterated warnings by the Government of the Republic of Cuba about the importance of upholding justice and preventing impunity, as well as repeated requests along those lines submitted by the Cuban relatives of the victims of terrorist acts committed by the aforementioned criminals and those presented by important sectors of the Panamanian population.

The history of the impunity currently enjoyed by the above-mentioned terrorists has been in the making since 10 April 2001, when the President of Panama herself, through Executive Resolutions 58, 59, 60 and 61, rejected the just and well-founded request for extradition against the four terrorists submitted by the Cuban Government on 12 January of that year, in compliance with all requirements for such acts under both Panamanian law and the international instruments in force.

By her action, Mrs. Moscoso discredited and ridiculed the statements made on 15 July 2004 by her Minister for Foreign Affairs, who, according to communiqué No. 100 of the Panamanian Foreign Ministry had reiterated that "Posada Carriles and his accomplices were tried, convicted and shall serve the sentence imposed".

As will be recalled, Luis Posada Carriles and Gaspar Jiménez Escobedo were sentenced to eight years in prison, and Pedro Remón and Guillermo Novo Sampoll to seven years, sentences that were duly appealed by the attorneys representing Panamanian trade union, student and indigenous organizations, on the grounds of irregularities in the proceedings and because the sentences imposed were not in line with the seriousness of the crimes proven against them in the trial.

Although President Moscoso has claimed that she made this decision on humanitarian grounds, it is widely known that this is not the real explanation for such a shameful decision.

The Cuban-born terrorist mafia based in Miami and the ringleaders of the terrorist gangs that operate with impunity from that territory against the Cuban people had insistently pressured former President Moscoso to release the four terrorists. The news media have reported that a lavish monetary reward was granted to Mrs. Moscoso as a prize for her immoral decision.

In addition, the United States Secretary of State, on his visit to Panama on the occasion of the Centennial of the Republic, had requested that Mrs. Moscoso release the four terrorists as soon as the trial ended. Thus, by her decision, the former President of Panama has done a significant electoral favour to the Administration of President George W. Bush, who seeks to be re-elected with the support of the Cuban-born extremist and violent groups based in Florida.

By favouring terrorism against Cuba and protecting convicted and confessed criminals, former President Moscoso has not only acted unworthily but has done so also flagrantly in violation of Panamanian law itself, which prevents the granting of a reprieve until the trial is over and a final judgement has been handed down.

To interrupt the judicial process against the above-mentioned terrorists, which at the time was in its appeals phase, and to prevent definitive justice from being done in such a delicate case, constitutes an affront to the Cuban people, to the victims of the crimes perpetrated by these individuals, to the Panamanian people and to all those who are valiantly fighting terrorism in the world.

Likewise, to release these terrorists at a time when the international community is striving to fight terrorism is an immoral and seriously irresponsible act.

Cuba has made it very clear that former President Moscoso and her Government will be held accountable in history for the consequences of this decision, which is incompatible with both the efforts that should be made internationally in order to effectively prevent acts of terrorism, including the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), and with the obligations assumed by the Republic of Panama, as a party to the international legal instruments pertaining to terrorism, which include, inter alia, the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 December 1997.

Allow me to recall, Sir, that the first report submitted to the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (S/2002/15) by the Republic of Cuba in compliance with Council resolution 1373 (2001) offered ample information on the terrorist activities committed against Cuba and on the perpetrators of such activities.

This information included, among other things, a list of the terrorist organizations that have acted or continue to act against Cuba from abroad and an account of the perpetrators and instigators of terrorist acts against Cuba, including the four persons reprieved by Mrs. Mireya Moscoso.

In this context, the Government of the Republic of Cuba would like to ask what steps the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council has considered taking in response to the voluminous information that Cuba has provided to it.

In addition, the Government of Cuba requests the Counter-Terrorism Committee established pursuant to Council resolution 1373 (2001) to undertake an evaluation of the aforementioned situation in the hope that such an effort might bring an end to impunity for these terrorists.

The Government of the Republic of Cuba would like to know what conclusion the Counter-Terrorism Committee has drawn concerning its analysis of the actions taken by Mrs. Mireya Moscoso, in the light of the provisions of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), especially those contained in paragraph 2.

Having been a victim of atrocious acts of terrorism for more than 40 years, Cuba reiterates its strongest condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever they are committed, reaffirms its decision to cooperate in fighting international terrorism and hopes that the international community will not remain impassive to the action discussed above, which promotes terrorism and awards its perpetrators.

A brief biography, which contains some elements of the terrorist record of the individuals reprieved by Mrs. Mireya Moscoso, is attached as enclosure II.

(*Signed*) Felipe **Pérez Roque**

Enclosure I

Selection of United Nations official documents referring to terrorist activities against Cuba perpetrated by the individuals reprieved by Mrs. Mireya Moscoso

- Letter dated 27 April 1992 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. S/23850.
- Letter dated 8 May 1992 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. S/23890.
- Letter dated 13 May 1992 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. S/23912.
- Letter dated 13 May 1992 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. S/23913.
- Draft resolution submitted by Cuba to the Security Council. Circulated as an official document under signature S/23990.
- Letter dated 13 May 1992 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. S/24009.
- Letter dated 26 May 1992 addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. S/24003.
- Letter dated 26 October 2001 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. A/56/520-S/2001/1037.
- Letter dated 26 October 2001 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. S/2001/1039.
- Letter dated 26 October 2001 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. A/56/222-S/2001/1040.
- Letter dated 29 October 2001 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. A/56/221-S/2001/1038.
- Letter dated 16 June 2003 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cuba. A/57/841.
- Letter dated 27 January 2004 addressed to the Secretary-General by the Acting Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Cuba. A/58/696.
- First Report of Cuba to the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee. S/2002/15.
- Secretary-General's report on measures to eliminate international terrorism. A/57/183.
- Secretary-General's report on measures to eliminate international terrorism. A/58/116.
- Report on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, submitted by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights. A/56/224.

- Report on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, submitted by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights. A/57/178.

- Report on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, submitted by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights. A/58/115.

Enclosure II

List of some elements of the terrorist record of the individuals reprieved by Mrs. Moscoso

Luis Faustino Clemente Posada Carriles

Among the main aliases used for his activities are:

Ramón Medina, Ignacio Medina, Juan Ramón Medina, Ramón Medina Rodríguez, José Ramón Medina, Rivas López, Juan José Rivas, Juan José Rivas López, Julio César Dumas, Franco Rodríguez Mena.

He left Cuba on 25 February 1961, after he entered the Embassy of Argentina in 1960.

He joined the U.S. army, where he received military training.

In 1963, he was syndicated as a CIA agent, teaching training in maritime issues. In 1964, he was placed near Tampa leading a Camp of the so-called Revolutionary Board (JURE) where Cuban-born terrorists are trained. At this place, he was trained by the CIA in explosives and demolition. He then led a CIA infiltration team, which conducted activities against Cuba.

In this decade he linked himself to Alpha 66 members, Commandos L, *30 of November* Movement, among other organizations which promoted terrorist acts against our country.

At the end of the 1960s, he based himself in Venezuela and in 1967 he joined the Division of Intelligence Service and Prevention (DISIP) of that country, where he was posted as Head of Operations and also fulfilled tasks as liaison with the CIA. Afterwards, he created the Detectives, Commercial and Industrial Investigations Agency, which was closed when it was verified that he co-perpetrated the sabotage on the *Cubana de Aviación* passenger plane in Barbados in 1976, which killed 73 people, with which he was charged and for which he was also imprisoned.

He remained in prison in several jails in Venezuela since 1976 until 18 August 1985, when he definitely escaped after several attempts, with the help of the Cuban-American National Foundation.

After escaping from prison, he moved to El Salvador, serving in the Llopango military base as adviser to the Nicaraguan contras for around two years.

In February 1990, he became the target of an attempted murder in Guatemala, being seriously wounded. In that country, he was serving as a security adviser to GUATEL (Guatemala's Telephone Company). In the wake of the attempted murder, he was financially supported by Cuban-American National Foundation (CANF) director, Alberto Hernández, who covered some of the hospital expenses.

After his recovery, he was transferred to San Pedro Sula City in Honduras, where he was put in a hotel room in that city, which was fully paid for by his friend Rafael Hernández Nodarse, a Cuban-born businessman.

In the 1990s, he maintained frequent contacts with Gaspar Jiménez Escobedo, known as "Gasparito", and other terrorists, with whom he tried to organize several plots to assassinate President Fidel Castro, and supported several Miami

organizations in the purchase of weapons in Central America in order to carry out violent actions against Cuba.

At that time, he frequently travelled to countries in Central America and, especially, Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica and El Salvador. In these countries, he had close relations with military officers and businessmen who supported him. He also travelled to Miami, Spain, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela and Aruba.

In January 1994, he participated in the organization of a plot to kill President Fidel Castro, financed by the CANF, which would be implemented in Honduras, on the occasion of the inauguration of President Carlos Roberto Reina. In June, with similar purposes, he travelled together with Gaspar Jiménez Escobedo to Colombia.

In June 1995, he travelled to Costa Rica in order to perpetrate a dynamite-related action against a Cuban ship; and in December, with Ramón Orozco Crespo, he prepared a dynamite-related action against a Cuban target.

In 1995, in complicity with some Honduran military officer, Posada Carriles placed 41 bombs in Honduras, as was denounced in 1997 by Dr. Ramón Custodio, leader of the Honduran Committee on Human Rights.

In 1997, with the support of the CANF leadership, he organized the terrorist structure created in Central America with the objective of carrying out violent actions against Cuba, recruiting mercenaries of the region, to which he admitted publicly in mid-1998.

In 1997, he was also involved with CANF director, Arnaldo Monzón Plasencia, in the preparations of a plot to murder President Fidel Castro, which would be carried out during the holding of the 7th Ibero-American Summit at Isla Margarita, Venezuela. In such preparations, he got some counter-revolutionaries of that country involved in his projects, such as Nelly Rojas, Pedro Morales and Francisco Pimentel, among other elements, who apparently gave him assistance.

He directly organized several terrorist bombings against Cuba. These started in April 1997 and, to that end, he recruited mercenaries such as Chávez Abarca and Otto René Rodríguez Llerena. Fourteen bombs were prepared, out of which 8 exploded, 4 were deactivated without exploding and 2 were occupied at the moment they were introduced at the airport. These bombs killed one person, wounded several people and caused untold material damage.

In addition, the offices of Cuban enterprise Havanatur in the Bahamas and Cubanacán Corporation in Mexico were also bombed.

He directly organized a plot to assassinate President Fidel Castro during his visit to the Dominican Republic in August 1998, which involved other terrorists based in Miami.

That same year, he planned to blow up a *Cubana* passenger plane going from Havana to Central America.

In 1999 and 2000, Posada Carriles continued to prepare several terrorist plans with a similar profile, aimed at damaging the Cuban economy and other targets in Cuba, as well as Cuban assets and interests abroad, for which he purchased explosives and other munitions.

As to the assassination plot intended for the Tenth Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government, it was directly led by Francisco "Pepe" Hernández and Alberto Hernández, in meetings with Posada Carriles in Central American countries.

For organizing this plan, he held several meetings, among others, with terrorists Gaspar Jiménez and Antonio Iglesias, who provided money from the CANF to purchase weapons and explosives.

Between August and October of the previous year, Posada, with a fake identity, made several trips to Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama working on such preparations. In Costa Rica, he received financial support and facilities in order to smuggle by land the purchased weapons into Panama.

While in Panama, he made the necessary studies in the city, which were essential to carry out the plot.

During the holding of the Tenth Ibero-American Conference in November 2000 in the Republic of Panama, he was arrested by this country's authorities together with Gaspar Eugenio Jiménez Escobedo, Guillermo Novo Sampoll and Pedro Remón Rodríguez, for being involved in an assassination plot against the President of Cuba.

Gaspar Eugenio Jiménez Escobedo

Trained by the CIA since 1961, particularly in the handling of explosives. He was a member of terrorist organizations such as Abdala, Independent and Democratic Cuba, and replaced terrorist Orlando Bosh leading the CORU, for the latter was detained in Venezuela after the bombing of the *Cubana* passenger plane in Barbados.

He has planned and carried out several assassination plots against Cuban officials in Cuban rep-offices overseas.

Together with terrorists Gustavo Castillo and Orestes Ruiz Fernández, on 23 July 1973, he directly participated in the implementation of the attempted kidnapping of Daniel Ferrer Fernández, Cuban Consul to Mérida city in Mexico, where Artaignan Díaz Díaz, a Cuban technician of the Shrimp Fleet of the Caribbean, was killed. After several months of arrest, he managed to flee his prison in Mexico.

In 1977, he was arrested by the US authorities accused of violating the Neutrality Law of the United States Government, although he was released afterwards.

In 1986, together with Silas Cuervo, he travelled to El Salvador where he met with terrorist Luis Posada Carriles in order to organize several assassination plots against Fidel Castro. It was known that at that time, Posada Carriles was leading a camp that stored a huge number of weapons, which he had requested from the Americans to carry out joint actions against the Board of the Nicaraguan Government.

Since June 1993, he got involved with the paramilitary group of the Cuban-American National Foundation (CANF), serving, ever since, as one of its main activists. He served as "bodyguard" to the former director of that organization, Alberto Hernández.

That same year he participated in the preparations of a plot to kill President Fidel Castro during the inauguration of Honduran President Carlos Alberto Reina. Since the visit did not take place, the assassination plot was postponed for Colombia in

1994, during the Fourth Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government, with unsuccessful results.

He was one of the main liaisons of the CANF with Posada Carriles in the preparations of the failed assassination plot in Panama, for which he travelled to Central America to meet with Posada Carriles and give him money.

During the holding of the Tenth Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government in November 2000 in the Republic of Panama, he was arrested by the authorities of that country together with Posada Carriles, Guillermo Novo Sampoll and Pedro Remón Rodríguez, for being involved in an assassination plot against the President of Cuba.

Guillermo Novo Sampoll

A notorious terrorist, responsible for the murder of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, together with his brother Ignacio Novo Sampoll and José Dionisio Suárez.

In 1961, following instructions of the MNC, he joined the preparations of the mercenary invasion of Cuba through the Bay of Pigs, but his group did not get to disembark when the invaders were defeated. When the MNC was rationalized, he joined Julio Pérez Pérez's group, admitting publicly that he had placed bombs on behalf of "Comnando Cero". He became the top leader of the MNC.

In December 1964, he sabotaged with a bazooka the United Nations building in New York, the United States, while Commander Ernesto Ché Guevara was speaking at the plenary session, as a representative of the Republic of Cuba. For this act, he was arrested by the United States FBI and released on a US$ 15,000 bail.

He was arrested in June 1967 by the New Jersey Police Department, together with his brother Ignacio, for illegally bearing explosives, and was sentenced in 1968 together with his brother to a US$ 250-fine and 2 years' probation.

In 1973, he was submitted to the New Jersey District Court for breaking the Neutrality Law of that nation as he participated in actions against the Cuban Consulate in Montreal, Canada, and against a Cuban ship, for which he was sentenced to 6 months in prison and 5 years' probation.

At the end of the 1980s, he joined the paramilitary group of the Miami-based terrorist organization, CANF.

During the holding of the Tenth Ibero-American Conference of Heads of State and Government in November 2000 in the Republic of Panama, he was arrested by the authorities of that country together with Posada Carriles, Gaspar Jiménez Escobedo and Pedro Remón Rodríguez for being involved in an assassination plot against the President of Cuba.

Pedro Crispín Remón Rodríguez

Born in Cuba in 1945. Left the country to live in the United States.

He is one of the members of the terrorist organization Omega 7.

In an FBI confidential report, he is regarded as the murderer of Cuban diplomat Félix García Rodríguez and Cuban-American citizen Eulalio José Negrín.

He was trained by the CIA for the Bay of Pigs invasion. After the failed operation, the same characters — perfectly trained in Fort Benning in the use of weapons and explosives — reappeared in the ranks of several terrorist organizations, some of them clearly sponsored by the United States Central Intelligence Agency.

According to an FBI declassified report dated October 1993, Pedro Remón involved himself for the first time in terrorist activities when he was arrested on the Canada-United States border, in December 1980, hours after the explosion of a bomb in the Cuban Consulate in Montreal.

He is still involved in terrorist plans against Cuba. He maintains links with Luis Posada Carriles. He is involved since the beginning in the assassination plót against President Fidel Castro, being one of the main organizers and possible one of the perpetrators of the action.

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